COVID-19
Case Reporting Guidance

TN Department of Health

As the situation around COVID-19 continues to evolve, the public health response from the Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) must also evolve. We are updating our reporting requirements for COVID-19 case reports to mirror the system used for other reportable conditions in Tennessee. **As of March 19, 2020, when you receive positive COVID-19 laboratory results on a patient in your facility please report those results and required patient data via fax. If there is a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 death in your facility follow the same procedure.** This will allow for more accurate data collection compared to relying on phone calls and data entry based on transcriptions of these calls.

Request: Submit all case information and lab results for positive COVID-19 patients and confirmed or suspected COVID-19 associated deaths via fax.

Who should report?
Healthcare providers who receive positive COVID-19 test results on their patients or patients in their facility. Healthcare providers who suspect a death in their facility may be associated with COVID-19.

When should we report?
Healthcare providers should fill out the CDC's Human Infection with 2019 Novel Coronavirus Person Under Investigation (PUI) and Case Report Form (PUI Form) and fax to TDH **within 24 hours** of receiving a COVID-19 diagnosis, positive lab report on a patient, and/or becoming aware of a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 associated death.

What should we report?
Please submit a PUI Form on all positive COVID-19 test results from commercial labs only; you do not need to submit further information on a lab result from the TDH Public Health Laboratory. Please include a copy of the positive lab result.

Please submit a PUI Form on all suspected or confirmed COVID-10 associated deaths. Please include a copy of the positive lab result regardless of the lab that performed the testing (commercial labs as well as state public health labs).

How should we report?
There are 3 options for reporting positive cases and suspected or confirmed COVID-19 associated deaths:
- Fax the PUI Form and a copy of the positive laboratory report to 615-741-3857
- Call the TDH COVID-19 call center between 8am-8pm, 615-741-7247
- Submit an electronic Morbidity Report*

*If you already report diseases or conditions to TDH via Morbidity Reports, you can continue to do this for COVID-19 positive labs and suspected or confirmed deaths. These are electronically submitted to NBS through https://hssi.tn.gov/auth/login.

Do laboratories need to report these same results?
Laboratories performing COVID-19 testing should be reporting these results electronically via ELR or our emergency spreadsheet template. If you are a laboratory that needs to report via one of these methods, please email ceds.informatics@tn.gov.